

CUBANS' RELEASE EXPECTED TODAY

Report Asserts Havana Will
Get Unlabeled Food and
Medicine to Free Men

By R. HART PHILLIPS

Special to The New York Times

MIAMI, Oct. 8—The food and medicine that will be delivered to the Cuban Government as ransom for the release of the 1,100 prisoners captured in the 1961 invasion, will be shipped "in bulk and without labels," reports from Havana said today.

Although there has been no official announcement, the prisoners are expected to arrive in Miami tomorrow by a specially arranged commercial airlift. The negotiations with Premier Fidel Castro for the release of the prisoners have been conducted by James B. Donovan, a New York attorney.

\$60,000,000 Involved

Mr. Donovan, who has been in Havana for the last week, flew to Miami yesterday at 11 A.M. in a special plane. He returned to Cuba at 4 P.M. Since that time the Cuban Families Committee for liberation of prisoners and the families of the Cuban prisoners have been preparing to receive them tomorrow.

Although Premier Castro originally demanded \$62,000,000 to release the prisoners, the amount has been reduced to \$60,000,000, according to sources in Havana. Cuban vessels will pick up the food and medicine that will be sent to Havana in lieu of American dollars, the Havana informant said.

In Havana, the food and medicine will be repacked and relabeled. Thus the Cuban people might believe these products were sent by the Communists bloc countries.

The ransoming of the prisoners has shocked and dismayed the enemies of Dr. Castro in Cuba and the families of the 60,000 other anti-Castro prisoners held on the island, according to the Havana source. The source said the Castro Government was jubilant over its success in obtaining food and medicine, which is so scarce in Cuba and so essential to the success of the Castro regime.

In Havana

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT

circles it is said that the United States Government is paying this ransom because of its guilt in the April, 1961, invasion.

A report circulated in Miami today that since neither the Cuban Families Committee in Miami nor the committee in New York was able to raise the ransom funds the United States Government is paying the amount demanded by Dr. Castro.

Last April Dr. Castro released 60 sick and wounded prisoners on the pledge of the Cuban Families Committee to pay about \$2,000,000. Later he placed a price on each prisoner and six or seven were ransomed by their families here at prices ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

This tactic has caused a deep split in the Cuban refugee colony in Miami between the splinter groups. Some prisoners were no official details, but it

HAVANA, Oct. 8 (UPI) — James B. Donovan and Premier Fidel Castro met secretly today to work out what were purported to be the final arrangements for the release of 1,113 prisoners in exchange for food and medicine. Mr. Donovan, a Democratic candidate for United States Senator in New York, was negotiating on behalf of the Cuban families committee.

There was no official indication where the two men were meeting. Their talks were the fourth since Mr. Donovan returned to Havana earlier this month from New York.

Varadero Beach, a former luxury summer resort, was the site of their last meeting during the weekend, when they

was believed the men had agreed on a final figure for the release of the captives.

Airline Ready to Serve

A Pan American World Airways spokesman said last night that the airline had not been asked to fly the Cuban invasion prisoners back to the United States, but that the airline was prepared to do so if requested. He explained that Pan American had sufficient jet aircraft in the Miami area, each capable of carrying 174 passengers, to complete the task in a few hours.